

REMARKS

This amendment is being filed in response to the Office Action having a mailing date of July 14, 2005. Claims 4-11 are amended as shown. No new matter has been added. Claims 1-3 are canceled herein without prejudice. With this amendment, claims 4-11 are pending in the application.

In the Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 1-4 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Onoyama (U.S. Patent No. 6,378,694) and under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Hall (U.S. Patent No. 5, 285,887). Claims 7-11 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, for being indefinite but were indicated to be allowable if rewritten to overcome the indefiniteness rejection. Claims 5-6 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form to include the limitations of their respective base claim. The applicants thank the Examiner for this indication of allowable subject matter.

Accordingly, claim 5 has been rewritten in independent form to include recitations along the lines of those in independent claim 1, with independent claim 1 (as well as dependent claims 2-3) now canceled. Dependent claim 4 has been amended to be consistent with newly independent claim 5. Claims 4-6 have been further amended to clarify the recitations contained therein, including providing proper antecedent basis. Accordingly, claims 4-6 are now allowable.

Claim 7 has been rewritten in independent form to include the limitations of the system recited therein. With this inclusion and other amendments to claim 7, proper antecedent basis is now present throughout claim 7. Furthermore, claim 7 is amended to remove the "selectively checking" recitation that was the basis for the Examiner's indefiniteness rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph. Dependent claims 8-11 are amended to clarify the language used therein. Accordingly, claims 7-11 are now allowable.

Overall, none of the references singly or in any motivated combination disclose, teach, or suggest what is recited in the independent claims. Thus, given the above amendments and accompanying remarks, the independent claims are now in condition for allowance. The dependent claims that depend directly or indirectly on these independent claims are likewise

allowable based on at least the same reasons and based on the recitations contained in each dependent claim.

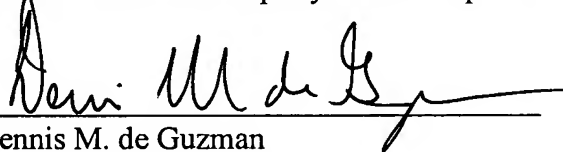
If the undersigned attorney has overlooked a teaching in any of the cited references that is relevant to the allowability of the claims, the Examiner is requested to specifically point out where such teaching may be found. Further, if there are any informalities or questions that can be addressed via telephone, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned attorney at (206) 622-4900.

The Director is authorized to charge any additional fees due by way of this Amendment, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 19-1090.

All of the claims remaining in the application are now clearly allowable. Favorable consideration and a Notice of Allowance are earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

SEED Intellectual Property Law Group PLLC

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dennis M. de Guzman", is written over a horizontal line.

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